

WHAT IS THE NOXIOUS WEED LIST?

To help protect the state's people, resources and private lands, the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board adopts a state weed list each year (WAC 16-750).^{*} Weeds are separated into categories according to the following criteria:

- **Distribution** – where the weed is located within the state or county
- **Abundance** – density of weed populations within the state or county
- **Level of Threat** – how dangerous the plant is to humans, animals, private and public lands, native habitats.

The County Weed List is made up of **Class A**, **Class B**, and **Class C** weeds from the State Weed List. The County Board has also included **Noxious Weeds of Concern** (either Class B or C weeds) and **Obnoxious Weeds**. Weeds in these two groups have environmental or other impacts but are not currently regulated in King County.

^{*} Between November and April, any person may request a change to the Washington State noxious weed list for the following year. For more information, call the State Noxious Weed Control Board Office at 360-902-2094.



WHAT YOU CAN DO

Prevent weed infestations:

- Use weed-free seed and forage.
- Obey noxious weed laws and quarantines.
- Choose non-invasive species for your gardens and landscapes.
- Check vehicles, clothing, boats, boat trailers and camping equipment for weeds and seeds.
- Never dump aquarium plants into a pond or stream.
- Cover compost, topsoil and mulch piles with a tarp.

Control weed infestations:

- Remove or control weeds safely and appropriately.
- Re-plant with appropriate species to prevent weeds from returning.
- Prevent seed production and the spread of weeds at a minimum.
- Properly dispose of noxious weeds and weed seeds.
- Follow best management practices for pastures and open spaces.

To find out more about identifying, removing and controlling noxious weeds, please call:

206-296-0290

<http://dnr.metrokc.gov/weeds>



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Water and Land Resources Division
Noxious Weed Control Program
201 South Jackson, Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98104-3855
206-296-0290 TTY Relay: 711

2003 KING COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED LIST



Garlic Mustard



Giant Hogweed



Tansy Ragwort



Purple Loosestrife

WHAT ARE NOXIOUS WEEDS?

Noxious weeds are non-native plants that have been introduced either accidentally or intentionally through human actions. Because of their aggressive growth and lack of natural enemies, these species can be highly destructive, competitive and difficult to control. Noxious weeds have come to the Northwest as garden ornamentals, in wildflower seed mixes, as agricultural crops, in contaminated hay or seeds, and from aquariums and water gardens.

These exotic species can poison humans and livestock, lower land values, reduce crop yields, destroy native plant and animal habitat, affect recreational opportunities, and clog waterways.

Noxious weeds should be controlled wherever they occur and should not be introduced to new sites. Preventing new weed infestations is a high priority.

IMPACTS OF SOME NOXIOUS WEEDS IN KING COUNTY



Tansy ragwort is poisonous to livestock and is prominent in eastern King County and on Vashon Island.



The sap of **giant hogweed** can cause severe burn-like lesions if it comes in contact with unprotected skin. Giant hogweed is wide spread in Seattle neighborhoods and in surrounding urban areas.



Garlic mustard crowds out native woodland undergrowth in urban parks and other wooded areas.



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Water and Land Resources Division
Noxious Weed Control Program

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KING COUNTY 2003 NOXIOUS WEED LIST

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CLASS A WEEDS have a limited distribution in Washington. Because the infestations of these plants are small in number and limited in density, preventing new infestations and eradicating existing infestations is the highest priority. **Control** and eventual eradication **of these species is required by law** in all of King County and Washington State.


Common Name	Scientific Name	SOURCE			
					
broom, Spanish	<i>Spartium junceum</i>		X		
buffalobur	<i>Solanum rostratum</i>	ⓧ	ⓧ		ⓧ
clary, meadow	<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	X	X		
cordgrass, dense flower	<i>Spartina densiflora</i>				X
crupina, common	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>	ⓧ			ⓧ
garlic mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	X			
goatsrue	<i>Galega officinalis</i>	X	X		
hawkweed, yellow devil	<i>Hieracium floribundum</i>	ⓧ			ⓧ
hogweed, giant	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>		X		
hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>			X	
knapweed, bighead	<i>Centaurea macrocephala</i>		X		
knapweed, Vochin	<i>Centaurea nigrescens</i>	ⓧ	ⓧ		ⓧ
kudzu	<i>Pueraria montana var. lobata</i>		X		
lawnweed	<i>Soliva sessilis</i>				ⓧ
nightshade, silverleaf	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>				ⓧ
sage, clary	<i>Salvia sclarea</i>		X		
sage, Mediterranean	<i>Salvia aethiopis</i>	X	X		
spurge, eggleaf	<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>		X		
starthistle, purple	<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>	X			
thistle, Italian	<i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i>	X	X		
thistle, milk	<i>Silybum marianum</i>		X		
thistle, slenderflower	<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>	X	X		
velvet leaf	<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i>	X	X		
woad, dyers	<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>		X		

INTRODUCTION SOURCES

 **Agricultural** (Crops, seed, feed, pastures, etc.)

 **Garden** (Ornamentals, landscaping, seed mixes, herbal or medicinal, etc.)

 **Fresh or saltwater aquatic** (Water gardens, ponds, aquariums, etc.)

 **Other** (Ships’ ballast, gravel, unknown)





X Known Source
ⓧ Suspected Source

Note: Weeds shown in the **bolder typeface** are new to the 2003 list.





CLASS B WEEDS only occur in parts of the state. These weeds are abundant in some areas and rare in others. In regions where a Class B species is already widespread, control priority is decided by the County Weed Board with containment as the primary goal. **Control** and slowing the spread **of these species is required by law**.

Common Name	Scientific Name	SOURCE			
					
blueweed	<i>Echium vulgare</i>		ⓧ		ⓧ
bugloss, annual	<i>Anchusa arvensis</i>		ⓧ		
bugloss, common	<i>Anchusa officinalis</i>		ⓧ		
cinquefoil, sulfur	<i>Potentilla recta</i>		X		
cordgrass, common	<i>Spartina anglica</i>			X	
fanwort	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>			X	
gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>		X		
hawkweed, mouseear	<i>Hieracium pilosella</i>		X		
hawkweed, orange	<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>		X		
hawkweed, polar	<i>Hieracium atratum</i>	ⓧ	ⓧ		ⓧ
hawkweed, smooth	<i>Hieracium laevigatum</i>	ⓧ	ⓧ		ⓧ
hawkweed, yellow	<i>Hieracium caespitosum</i>	ⓧ	ⓧ		ⓧ
knapweed, black	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>		ⓧ		
knapweed, brown	<i>Centaurea jacea</i>		ⓧ		
knapweed, diffuse	<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>		X		X
knapweed, meadow	<i>Centaurea jacea x nigra</i>		X		
knapweed, Russian	<i>Acroptilon repens</i>	ⓧ			
knapweed, spotted	<i>Centaurea biebersteinii</i>		X		X
kochia	<i>Kochia scoparia</i>	ⓧ	ⓧ		
loosestrife, garden	<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>		X		
loosestrife, purple	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>		X		
nutsedge, yellow	<i>Cyperus esculentus</i>	X			X
parrotfeather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>			X	
pepperweed, perennial	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>	X			
policeman’s helmet	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>		X		
ragwort, tansy	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	X	X		
skeletonweed, rush	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	ⓧ			ⓧ
sowthistle, perennial	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>				X
spurge, leafy	<i>Euphorbia esula</i>		X		
starthistle, yellow	<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>				
thistle, musk	<i>Carduus nutans</i>	ⓧ	X		
thistle, Scotch	<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>		X		
toadflax, Dalmatian	<i>Linaria dalmatica ssp. dalmatica</i>		X		
water primrose	<i>Ludwigia hexapetala</i>				X
yellow floating heart	<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>			X	

CLASS C WEEDS are common throughout most of Washington. The County Weed Board has selected the following species as priority weeds in King County, dependant on local threats and feasibility of control. **Control** ,with containment as the primary goal, **is required by law**.





Common Name	Scientific Name	SOURCE			
					
hawkweeds, invasive and non-native	<i>Hieracium spp.</i>	ⓧ	ⓧ		ⓧ
toadflax, yellow	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>		X		
wormwood, absinth	<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>		X		

In addition to the listed Noxious Weeds, there are **OBNOXIOUS WEEDS** that have escaped from intentional plantings and now are widespread in King County. These plants often impact and degrade native plant and animal habitat. **There is no regulation connected to this list.** The County Weed Board recognizes these plants as invasive and is collecting information and providing education on control. The Board *encourages and recommends control and containment of existing populations and discourages new plantings.* This is not an all inclusive list. We are always looking for more information on these and our monitor species. For a complete list of monior species, please contact the program.

Common Name	Scientific Name	SOURCE			
					
blackberry, evergreen	<i>Rubus laciniatus</i>		X		
blackberry, Himalayan	<i>Rubus discolor</i>		X		
butterfly bush	<i>Buddleia spp.</i>		X		
holly, English	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>		X		
laurel, English	<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>		X		
nightshade, bitter	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>		ⓧ		ⓧ

Information presented here is available in alternate formats upon request for individuals with disabilities.
Call: 206-296-0290. TTY: 1-800-833-6388

NOXIOUS WEEDS OF CONCERN are Class B and C from the State Weed List and are of lower priority in King County. Because these plants are common in King County, control is not currently required. However, the County Weed Board strongly **encourages and recommends control and containment of existing populations and discourages new plantings.**

Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	SOURCE			
						
C	bindweed, field	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>		X		
B 🌿	broom, Scot’s	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>		X		
C	canarygrass, reed	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	X		X	
B	carrot, wild	<i>Daucus carota</i>	X			
B	daisy, oxeye	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	X	X		
B	elodea, Brazilian	<i>Egeria densa</i>			X	
B	herb Robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>		X		
C	iris, yellow flag	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>		X	X	
C	ivy, English (four cultivars)	<i>Hedera hibernica</i> <i>‘Hibernica’;</i> <i>Hedera helix ‘Baltica’</i> , <i>‘Pittsburgh’</i> , <i>‘Star’</i>		X		
B	knotweed, giant	<i>Polygonum sachalinense</i>		X		
B	knotweed, Himalayan	<i>Polygonum polystachyum</i>		X		
B	knotweed, Japanese	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>		X		
C	old man’s beard	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>		ⓧ		
C	poison hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>		X		
C	reed, common	<i>Phragmites australis</i>				X
B	saltcedar	<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>		X		X
C	spurge, myrtle	<i>Euphorbia myrsinites</i>		X		
C 🌿	St. Johnswort, common	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>		X		
C	tansy, common	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>		X		
C	thistle, bull	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	X	X		
C	thistle, Canada	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	X	X		
C	water lily, fragrant	<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>		X	X	
B	watermilfoil, Eurasian	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>			X	

- 🌿 Control of Scot’s broom is required along the I-90 corridor between mile marker 34 and Snoqualmie Pass.
- 🌿 A permit from the County Weed Board must be obtained to grow St. Johnswort in King County.

